GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:300
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2007
INCREASE IN RATES OF MOBILE SERVICE
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether GSM Mobile Service provider private companies have raised tariff/rates in their several services;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the current year;

(c) whether tribunal has issued orders to TRAI in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government would withdraw on increased tariff and rates without permission; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Yes, Sir. However,, Tariffs for telecom service in the country are governed by the frame work laid down in the Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO), 1999 as amended from time to time. As per the existing provisions of TTO, tariff for GSM mobile service is under forbearance.

(b) The details of the major instances of tariff hikes are given in the Annexure.

(c) & (d) No, Sir, two consumer organizations have filed petitions in the Hon'ble Telecom Disputes Settlement Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) against tariff hikes recently effected by Airtel, Vodafone and Idea Cellular. The Hon'ble Tribunal has not passed any final order in the case.

(e) & (f) The intervention of the Authority in telecommunication tariff is made when tariff implemented by the operator is not consistent with the framework laid down by the TTO.